

# GRAND FORKS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

122 S 5<sup>TH</sup> ST, SUITE 210

GRAND FORKS, NORTH DAKOTA 58201-4632

SHERIFFS.OFFICE@GFCOUNTY.ORG

PHONE: 701-780-8280

FAX: 701-780-8307



**SHERIFF ANDY SCHNEIDER**

---

**To: Senate Judiciary Members**  
**From: Sheriff Andy Schneider**  
**RE: SB 2234**  
**Date: 1/26/2021**

Dear Senate Judiciary members,

My name is Andy Schneider, and I have the privilege and honor of being the Sheriff of Grand Forks County. I come before you today to give testimony regarding why I am opposed to SB 2234. This proposed bill brings forth several concerns regarding the care, disbursement, and regulation of a medically prescribed drug.

- The bill discerns that (8) is the appropriate number of plants to be kept inside a locked, enclosed facility.
- The bill also gives no direction to who will inspect this area initially or periodically to affirm that the plant number is no more than 8, and that it is remaining in a secure facility.
- This bill does not notify Law Enforcement that inspecting agencies (not addressed in bill) have verified the grow sites have met the standards set forth.
- The way this bill is written, Law Enforcement has no ability or right to verify any of the minimum requirements are being met.
- There is no regular notification or inspection process (annual, bi-annual, etc.).
- There is no standard set forth requiring any notification of change of address to the state division of medical marijuana or local law enforcement.
- Law enforcement is only given a notification of intent to grow. They are not allowed to perform any pre-inspection, or have any input regarding the grow operation site.
- This allows any person manufacturing marijuana to have immunity from prosecution, search or inspection or seizure of said marijuana, unless done by the department of medical marijuana. The department has no inspection process described in the bill.
- The medical marijuana bill was passed into law to allow Doctors to prescribe this controlled substance.
- Allowing patients to grow their own prescribed medication with little to no oversight, behind lock and key, without permitting law enforcement to verify the requirements are met is a unique spin on handling controlled substances prescribed by a medical professional.

The current version of this bill leaves several unknowns and large gaps regarding the oversight of a home grow operation. I cannot support this bill as it is written.

Andy Schneider  
Sheriff, Grand Forks County  
andrew.schneider@gfcounty.org

